

Amendments to the Specification:

Rewrite the paragraph at page 1, line 5 as follows.

This application claims the ~~priority~~ benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) (~~1~~) of ~~copending~~ U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/185,792, filed ~~on February 29, 2000~~ 2/29/2000; this application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application No. 09/224,401, filed 12/31/1998, now copending, and claims the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120.

Rewrite equations 1 and 2 at page 9, line 14 as follows.

$$c = \alpha_{21}a - \alpha_{12}b^* \quad \text{Equation 1}$$

$$d = \alpha_{21}b - \alpha_{12}a^* \quad \text{Equation 1}$$